

APR 12 2004

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

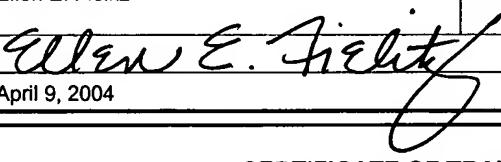
Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10/748,610
Filing Date	December 30, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert C. Thistle
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	BSI-521US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

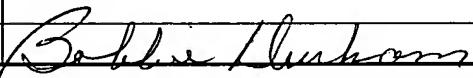
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): 1 Reference Return Receipt Postcard
Remarks: <hr/>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	Ellen E. Fielitz	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	54,746
Signature			
Date	April 9, 2004		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION / MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

Typed or printed name	Bobbie Durham		
Signature		Date	April 9, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Office, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: 10/748,610
Applicant: Robert C. Thistle
Filed: December 30, 2003
Title: NON-POROUS GRAFT WITH FASTENING ELEMENTS
TC/A.U.:
Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

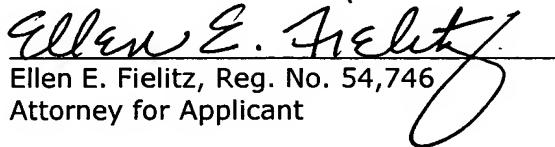
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith. A copy of the listed foreign reference is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application or before mailing of the first Official Action. No first Official Action has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. No fee or statement is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,


Ellen E. Fielitz, Reg. No. 54,746
Attorney for Applicant

EEF/bgd

Enclosures: PTO Form 1449
(1) Reference
Transmittal Form

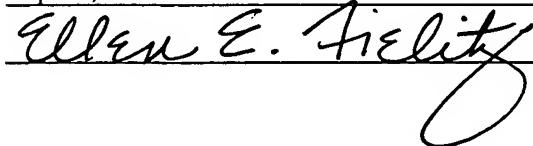
Dated: April 9, 2004

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P.O. Box 980 Valley Forge, PA 19482 (610) 407-0700
<input type="checkbox"/> P.O. Box 1596 Wilmington, DE 19899 (302) 778-2500

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

April 9, 2004



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

QIP
APR 12 2004

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/748,610
		Filing Date	December 30, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Robert C. Thistle
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		SHEET 1 of 3	
		Attorney Docket No. BSI-521US	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		US-5,123,917	06-23-1992	Lee	Entire document	
		US-5,387,236	02-07-1995	Noishiki, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,549,860	08-27-1996	Charlesworth, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,665,114	09-09-1997	Wedock, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,674,241	10-07-1997	Bley, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,693,085	12-02-1997	Buirge, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,700,285	12-23-1997	Myers, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,723,004	03-03-1998	Dereume, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,735,892	04-07-1998	Myers, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,749,880	05-12-1998	Banas, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,800,512	09-01-1998	Lentz, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,843,166	12-01-1998	Lentz, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,876,432	03-02-1999	Lau, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,916,264	06-29-1999	Von Oepen, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,925,075	07-20-1999	Myers, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,928,279	07-27-1999	Shannon, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,948,018	09-07-1999	Dereume, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,961,545	10-05-1999	Lentz, et al.	Entire document	
		US-5,967,192	11-02-1999	McIntyre, et al.	Entire document	
		US-6,001,125	12-14-1999	Golds, et al.	Entire document	
		US-6,139,573	10-31-2000	Sogard, et al.	Entire document	
		US-6,156,064	12-05-2000	Chouinard	Entire document	
		US-6,165,212	12-26-2000	Dereume, et al.	Entire document	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		EP-0 775 472 A2	05-28-1997	Schneider, Inc.	Entire document	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
Examiner Signature					Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO

Complete if Known

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 2 of 3

Attorney Docket No. BSI-521US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (If known)			
		US-6,187,054 B1	02-13-2001	Colone, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,203,735	03-20-2001	Edwin, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,214,039 B1	04-10-2001	Banas, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,309,343 B1	10-30-2001	Lentz, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,331,191 B1	12-18-2001	Chobotov	Entire document
		US-6,357,104 B1	03-19-2002	Myers	Entire document
		US-6,364,903	04-02-2002	Tseng, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,368,347	04-09-2002	Maini, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,398,803	06-04-2002	Layne, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,428,571 B1	08-06-2002	Lentz, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,440,166	08-27-2002	Kolluri	Entire document
		US-6,443,981	09-03-2002	Colone, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,451,047	09-17-2002	McCrea, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,488,701	12-03-2002	Nolting, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,514,283	02-04-2003	DiMatteo, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,517,570 B1	02-11-2003	Lau, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,517,571	02-11-2003	Brauker, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,524,334	02-25-2003	Thompson	Entire document
		US-6,540,773 B2	04-01-2003	Dong	Entire document
		US-6,540,780	04-01-2003	Zilla, et al.	Entire document
		US-6,547,815	04-15-2003	Myers	Entire document

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	10/748,610
	Filing Date	December 30, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Robert C. Thistle
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
SHEET 3 of 3	Attorney Docket No.	BSI-521US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional)

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

*For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST-16 if possible.

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.
The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.